



## 2015 Clean Water Indiana Grant Program

Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
One North Capitol Ave, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
[www.in.gov/isda](http://www.in.gov/isda)

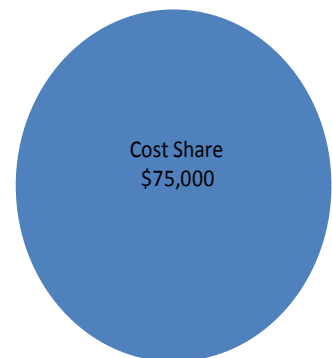


LEAD DISTRICT: RIPLEY  
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS:  
SWITZERLAND  
PROJECT NAME: INNOVATIVE  
STRATEGIES FOR SEDIMENT AND  
NUTRIENT SAVINGS THROUGH COVER  
CROPS AND PROGRESSIVE CROP  
SCOUTING  
PROJECT DATES: 5/1/2015-4/30/2017  
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$75,000

### Purpose: Promote cover crop usage

The SWCD's will continue to encourage the practice of incorporating cover crops into crop rotations, as well as promote the use of new technologies through Progressive Crop Scouting to ensure the proper application of nutrient inputs to protect from nutrient runoff. A cost share program will be developed with ranking that gives extra incentive to individuals doing the following: planting a cover crop on prevented planting acres, planting cover crops following wheat, planting cover crops with the agreement of doing progressive crop scouting, or incorporating a bee pollinator mix into the cover crops being planted. The Progressive Crop Scouting portion will be conducted through a partnership with Laughery Valley Ag Coop to offer additional assistance for landowners willing to conduct Imagery Analysis, Grid Soil Sampling, Tissue Sampling, and/or Plant Health Analysis and can be cost shared as a stand alone without cover crops but will rank low.

PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE:  
CCSI, NRCS, RIPLEY AND SWITZERLAND  
COUNTY PURDUE EXTENSION OFFICES,  
AND LAUGHERY VALLEY AG CO-OP



Ripley County SWCD will provide a cover crop demonstration plot at the Ripley County CCSI HUB farm.

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2015, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 14 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,020,900. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).